

DOCKET SECTION

PRESIDING OFFICER'S
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RULING NO. R97-1/82
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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268

POSTAL RATE COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Postal Rate and Fee Changes

Docket No. R97-1

PRESIDING OFFICER'S RULING ON MOTIONS FOR LATE ACCEPTANCE OF RESPONSES TO DISCOVERY

(December 19, 1997)

This ruling addresses two motions for late acceptance submitted by the Postal Service on December 9, 1997.

The Revised Responses of United States Postal Service to Interrogatories of David B. Popkin (DBP/USPS-8e-q & 9b, c.g), and Responses to (DBP/USPS-8r-bb & 9d-f, h-aa), and Motion for Late Acceptance indicates that the subject discovery requests were submitted by Mr. Popkin on September 10, 1997. The Response of United States Postal Service to Request for Admissions of Douglas F. Carlson and Motion for Late Acceptance (DFC/USP-RA-1-3) states the subject discovery requests were filed on October 29, 1997. Both motions cite the need to coordinate with Postal Service staff as grounds for late acceptance.

I will grant these motions. However, the length of these delays is not adequately justified by the Postal Service, and I will allow participants to supplement their direct evidence, including rebuttal to the Postal Service, to reflect the information provided by the Service in these responses, upon a showing that the delay in receiving these answers frustrated the timely preparation of testimony.

RULING

1. The Revised Response of United States Postal Service to Interrogatories of David B. Popkin (DBP/USPS-8e-q & 9b, c,g.), and Responses to (DBP/USPS-8r-bb & 9d-f, h-aa), and Motion for Late Acceptance, filed December 9, 1997, is granted.

2. The Response of United States Postal Service to Request for Admissions of Douglas F. Carlson and Motion for Late Acceptance (DFC/USPS-RA-1-3), filed December 9, 1997, is granted.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Edward J. Gleiman', followed by a long horizontal line.

Edward J. Gleiman
Presiding Officer